

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:9
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2002
EXPORT COST OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any new agri-exports strategy has been evolved to reduce export cost of agricultural products to provide direct assistance to farmers and make their products more competitive in the international market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the new strategy is an improvement over the earlier agri-exports strategy; and
- (c) the extent of improvement in agri-exports registered during the last three months as compared to the corresponding period of last year?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 9. DUE FOR REPLY ON 15TH JULY, 2002.

(a) to (c): The Government have initiated various measures to reduce export cost of agricultural products to make them more competitive in the international market. These, inter alia, include setting up of agri export zones to provide enhance international market access and improved infrastructural facilities, better flow of credit, assistance for reducing the marketing costs such as for transport, handling and processing on export of selected agricultural commodities as also removal of export restrictions like requirement for registration, packaging etc. Besides various agriculture development schemes providing assistance to farmers on agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, irrigation, insecticides, pesticides as also for research & development and extension for reducing production costs and for improving efficiency of agricultural production are also being implemented.

The value of agricultural exports has increased from Rs.25313.66 crores in the year 1999-2000 to Rs.29485.85 crores during the year 2001-02. Similarly, the value of export of agricultural produce during the last quarter of the year 2001-02 has also registered growth compare to the corresponding period of the year 2000-01 as detailed below:

Export of Agriculture Commodities (value: Rs. in crores)

Year 2000-01 Year 2001-02

January	2399.61	2841.96
February	2616.62	3100.12
March	3234.25	2719.35

Total 8250.48 8661.43